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OFFICE OF PETITIONS

In re Application of :
Mekkittikul et al. :
Application No. 09/801,533 :
Filed: March 7, 2001 :
Attorney Docket No. LANT-004 :

ON PETITION

This is a decision on the petition under 37 CFR 1.137(f), filed June 6, 2003, which is being treated as a petition under 37 CFR 1.137(b) to accept an unintentionally delayed notification of the filing in a foreign country of an application directed to the invention disclosed in the subject application.

The petition is GRANTED.

The present nonprovisional application became the subject of an application filed in the PCT Office designating foreign countries on March 7, 2002. However, the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office was unintentionally not notified of this filing within 45 days subsequent to the filing of the PCT application.

Therefore, pursuant to the provisions of 35 USC 122(b)(2)(B)(iii) and 37 CFR 1.213(c), petitioner failed to timely notify the Office of the filing of an application in a foreign country, or under a multilateral international agreement, that requires publication of applications 18 months after filing.

A petition under 37 CFR 1.137(f) must be accompanied by:

- (1) the reply, which is met by the notification of such filing in a foreign country or under a multinational treaty;
- (2) the petition fee as set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(m); and

(3) a statement that the entire delay in filing the required reply from the due date of the reply until the filing of a grantable petition was unintentional.

The present petition has been found to be in compliance with 37 CFR 1.137(f). Accordingly, the failure to timely notify the Office of a foreign or international filing within 45 days after the date of filing of such foreign or international application as provided by 35 USC 122(b)(2)(B)(iii) and 37 CFR 1.213(c) is accepted as having been unintentionally delayed.

The Office has processed the request to rescind the previous nonpublication request. A Communication Regarding Rescission of Nonpublication Request and/or Notice of Foreign Filing, which sets forth the projected publication date of September 16, 2004, accompanies this decision on petition.

The application file is being returned to the Office of Initial Patent Examination.

Telephone inquiries regarding this decision should be directed to the undersigned at (703) 306-5589.

Christina Tartera Donnell

Christina Tartera Donnell
Senior Petitions Attorney
Office of Petitions

Enclosure: Communication Regarding Rescission of Nonpublication Request and/or Notice of Foreign Filing